

News Release

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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IDWR Plans Meeting, Hearing for Proposed Water District

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho – October 18, 2005 For Media Information Contact: Tim Luke – (208) 287-4959

The Idaho Department of Water Resources will conduct an information Meeting and public hearing in Challis regarding the proposed creation of a water district in the Upper Salmon River Basin Area in Administrative Basins 71 and 72.

Public Information Meeting October 24, 2005, 7p.m. Challis High School Cafeteria 100 High St.

<u>Public Hearing</u> November 9, 2005, 7.p.m. Challis High School Cafeteria

During the Information meeting, IDWR Director Karl Dreher will provide information about why the creation of the district is being proposed, a timeline for district information, operation and expansion, and related information regarding the SRBA Wild and Scenic Rivers Agreement between the United States and the State of Idaho.

Information and testimony presented at the hearing will create a record upon which the Director will rely to determine whether formation of a water district is appropriate, and if so, how the district should be formed.

"It is important that holders of water rights understand and participate in the hearing process," says Dreher, who will serve as the hearing officer. During the hearing an opportunity will be provided for oral testimony regarding the creation of the district.

Written comments may also be submitted to the Director at the hearing or at any time prior to the close of the written comment period, Nov. 21, 2005. Written comments not presented at the hearing can be sent to the Director at the Idaho Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0098, no later than Nov. 21, 2005.